



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

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Office of the Assistant Attorney General

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

September 11, 2009

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

I write in response to your letter dated January 14, 2009, to Attorney General Mukasey concerning the investigation and potential prosecution of Bradley Schlozman. This letter also responds to your related Question for the Record propounded to Attorney General Holder following his June 17 appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Soon after taking office, Attorney General Holder directed members of his senior staff to undertake a comprehensive review of the decision of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia to decline prosecution of Mr. Schlozman in connection with allegations that Mr. Schlozman made false statements to Congress. As the Attorney General testified at his confirmation hearing, he was disturbed and dismayed by the conduct of Mr. Schlozman as detailed by the Final Report issued by the Office of the Inspector General and the Office of Professional Responsibility entitled, "An Investigation of Allegations of Politicized Hiring and Other Personnel Actions in the Civil Rights Division." The Attorney General firmly believes that providing false statements to Congress cannot and should not be tolerated and should, where provable beyond a reasonable doubt, be prosecuted.

The Attorney General's review was extensive; it included a thorough evaluation of the relevant case memoranda and investigative materials, an analysis of the relevant legal principles, and multiple meetings with members of the prosecution and investigative teams. The review was met with complete cooperation, transparency, and professionalism by the investigators and prosecutors involved in this matter. The Attorney General and his staff were struck by the fairness, objectivity, and rigor of analysis demonstrated by these career professionals. After careful examination of the evidence and the law, and upon consideration of other relevant prosecutorial factors, the Attorney General concluded that the United States Attorney's decision was reasonable and should be afforded due deference. The Attorney General thus has decided that the decision to decline prosecution of Mr. Schlozman should not be disturbed.

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To be clear, nothing in the Attorney General's determination to sustain the United States Attorney's decision should be construed as an endorsement of Mr. Schlozman's improper hiring and personnel-related practices as described in the Final Report.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald Weich".

Ronald Weich  
Assistant Attorney General